

SPICER- SIMSON, T. Heodo

[Sculptor, Paris, France], 1912-1928

Received 2 medals
bronze & silver.

- 1) George Frederick Walts
- 2) A. T. Price-Smythe

T. Price Smythe }
June 3rd - 1912 .

THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

AUDUBON PARK

156TH STREET, WEST OF BROADWAY

NEW YORK

PARVA
NE
PERFANT

A REGULAR MEETING OF THIS SOCIETY WILL
BE HELD ON

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1912, AT 3.30 P. M.

INFORMAL DISCUSSION AND EXHIBITION OF THE COINAGE OF
NEW ENGLAND PREVIOUS TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNITED
STATES MINT, TO WHICH MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO CONTRIBUTE

MEMBERS AND THEIR FRIENDS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

BAUMAN L. BELDEN,

SECRETARY

June 12th, 1912.

Mr. T. Spicer-Simson,
Hotel Gregorian,
42 West 35th St.,
New York.

Dear Mr. Spicer-Simson:-

I did not send you this acknowledgment sooner as I neglected asking for your address in New York. Mr. Newell was in to-day, and I obtained the address from him, and I enclose the acknowledgment herewith.

Trusting that I will have the pleasure of seeing you again before you leave for Paris, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

October 20th, 1914.

Mr. Theodore Spicer-Simson,
c/o Fifth Avenue Bank,
New York.

Dear Mr. Spicer-Simson:-

I have not written to you before as I rather expected from what you said when you called me up on the telephone that you would drop in here sometime before this.

I think you informed me that you desired to borrow this Society's specimen of your Watts medal to exhibit in San Francisco next year.

We will be happy to loan you the medal for that purpose, and I would be glad to know about how soon you will want to take it away. We have it on exhibition here together with two other medals by you, and would like to delay taking it out as long as possible.

Trusting that I will have the pleasure of seeing you here sometime before long, and with kind regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary.



BROADWAY, AT 156TH STREET
NEW YORK

November 28th, 1914.

Received from THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

The medal of George Frederick Watts by T. Spicer-Simson
for the purpose of exhibiting at the San Francisco Exposition to be
returned at its close. In case of loss Mr. Spicer-Simson will re-
place same.

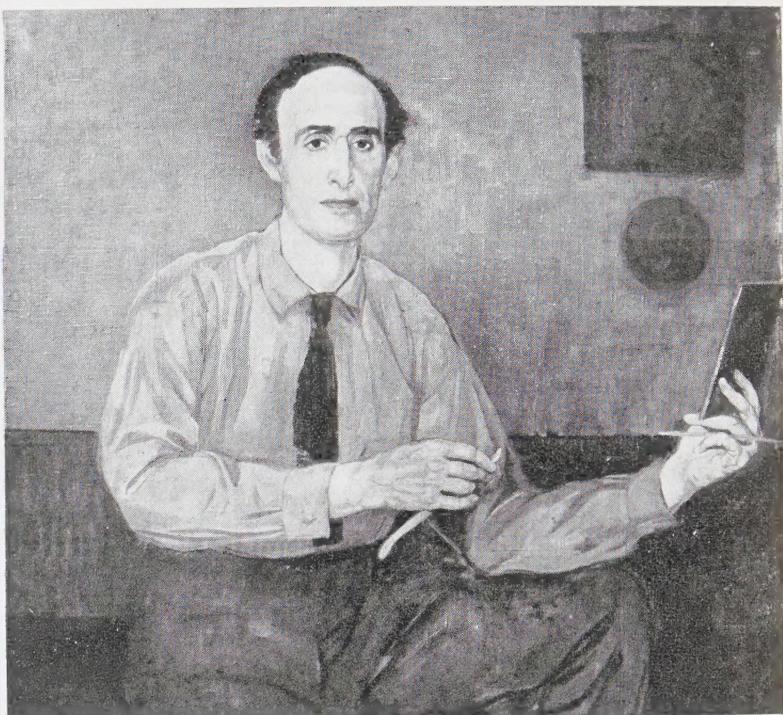
Theodore G. Weld
New York - Nov 28th 1914

Theodore Spier-Simson
57 West 57

Telephone 6573 Plaza

January 6, 1916

SPICER-SIMSON



THEODORE SPICER-SIMSON
BY
HENRY CARO-DELVAILLE

CATALOGUE
OF AN
EXHIBITION OF THE WORK
OF
SPICER-SIMSON

WITH A FOREWORD
BY EDWARD T. NEWELL

E. GIMPEL & WILDENSTEIN
647 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY
1918

FOREWORD

By

Edward T. Newell

President of the American Numismatic Society



R. Spicer-Simson is well known to collectors and connoisseurs in Europe. There his work is to be found as part of the permanent collections of all the principal Museums. The opportunity of seeing a large number of his medals brought together in one exhibition will not fail to create a very great interest in America where only a few examples have been acquired by the public collections.

The variety shown is remarkable, and the means employed to express the individuality of his subjects as varied as they are imaginative.

Contrasting the delicacy of relief of his children's portraits with the more vigorous modelling of his mature sitters, we are struck with Mr. Spicer-Simons versatility; the strong, bold handling of so many of his male portraits, (Gen. Horace Porter, George Frederick Watts, R. A. O. M., etc.) and his sympathetic, evanescent treatment of the daintiest types of womanhood as found, for instance, in his portraits of Mrs. Archer M. Huntington and Mrs. Frederick T. Blakeman.

Particularly noticeable is the successful handling of surfaces, their variety of relief and texture. These qualities are especially conspicuous on the reverse of the Alexander Agassiz medal. George Meredith's portrait, to be seen in the National Portrait Gallery as well as in the present Exhibition, shows how far matter can be made to express poetry and imagination, whereas General Horace Porter and Prof. J. P. Wood are men of action both in treatment and effect.

To his own inborn ability Mr. Spicer-Simson adds that inestimable quality so often lacking in present day artists—an understanding and appreciation, as thorough as it is sympathetic, of the great masters of the past. It is rare to see reflected in the work of one man so many of the characteristic qualities of the Greek, of Roman and of Italian masterpieces, the graceful lines, the subtle modelling, the sure instinct for balance and spacing of the Greek, the truthfulness and ability in portraiture of the Roman and of his pupil and descendant the Quattrocento Italian. To all, Mr. Spicer-Simson adds his own originality of thought, a sensitiveness of touch, a something that is perhaps as much the poet's as the artist's.

Medallic art is at once one of the highest achievements of human genius, as it is one of the most difficult and exacting mediums of artistic expression. To the obvious points of contact between medallic art and the so-called major art of sculpture, are to be reckoned in favor of the former, the added charm that resides

in the compactness of the form, the spacing, the lettering, and above all in the intimate and human interest which is the very nature of the medal. Here we have a form of sculpture on a scale that allows of it being taken in the hand, giving it that intimate character not wholly attainable by the more popular forms of art. Thus may be obtained the varying play of light which gives distinct changes of expression to the features and a consequent semblance of life to the portrait. Like its older sisters of sculpture and painting the portrait medal should possess, perhaps to an even greater degree, beauty of line, of form, of composition, and even of color suggestion.

As usual it was Greek genius that first conceived the great artistic and commemorative possibilities presented by a piece of metal of coin-like aspect. Thus their coins often assumed the form and appearance of a commemorative medal, though still serving as a medium of exchange. We are justified in assigning the origin of the medal to the Greeks for they were not only the pioneers in perpetuating records of great events or personages in this manner, but they were the people who laid and established the canons and ideals of that art whose most beautiful examples to-day are the incomparably glorious coins of the Greek Cities of Sicily and Magna Graecia. Although the famous silver medallions of Syracuse are undoubtedly coins, still, in other respects, they possess all the characteristics of the medal.

The Romans carried the commemorative issues of the Greeks a step nearer to our conception of the true medal. From Augustus to Theodoric and Justinian, the Roman rulers made a practice of striking gold and silver pieces of metallic form and commemorative of notable events in their reigns. As these pieces were all multiples of current coins it is conceivable that at times they might have been put in circulation. Our literary sources however speak of them as having been struck with the basic idea of gifts from the throne to important personages of the empire. In addition to these quasi medals many of the emperors actually did strike large and exceedingly beautiful medals in bronze which had no relation to the current coin. They are fine examples of the best in Roman art and, though not signed, are undoubtedly from the hands of the foremost artists of their kind.

The private and personal medal had not yet appeared. This was destined to be one of the glories of the Italian Renaissance. The Italian artist, newly awakened and sensitive to all forms of beauty, strove to emulate and surpass the handsome products of the Roman mint which directly inspired him. The numerous princes, the powerful nobles, the rich merchants, the litterati of the rising Italian cities of those days, continually striving among themselves and intensely individualistic, were consumed with the desire of perpetuating their achievements, their fame, and their features for all time. This spirit soon pro-

duced the true medal or medallion such as we know it. The tendencies of our times, resembling in their individualistic development those of the Renaissance, have again brought about a great revival of this monumental yet delicate art of which Mr. Spicer-Simson is such an eminent exponent.

C A T A L O G U E

- 1 Miss Mildred Aldrich
- 2 Miss Margaret Anglin
- 3 Mr. Charles Francis Adams
- 4 Mr. Alexander Graham Bell
- 5 Mrs. Frederick T. Blakeman
- 6 Miss Alys Bentley
- 7 Prof. George Pierce Baker
- 8 Abdul Baha
- 9 Mr. Bryson Burroughs
- 10 Mr. Andrew Carnegie
- 11 Mr. John Crisp Coleman
- 12 Mr. Henry Caro-Delvaille
- 13 Mrs. Henry Caro-Delvaille
- 14 Mrs. T. Criley
- 15 Dr. Moncure D. Conway
- 16 Miss Alice Dumay
- 17 Master Waldron Faulkner
- 18 Admiral Sir Wilmot H. Fawkes, K.C.B.-K.C.V.O.
- 19 Mrs. David Fairchild

- 20 Mr. B. T. Galloway
- 21 Miss Katherine Cabaudin
- 22 Mr. F. A. Guild
- 23 Miss Louise S. Hammond
- 24 Miss Elizabeth S. Hammond
- 25 Mrs. Charles Dewey Hilles
- 26 Mrs. Archer M. Huntington
- 27 "Hilda"
- 28 Mrs. F. S. James
- 29 Mr. Winthrop Templeton Johnson
- 30 Miss Penelope King
- 31 Sir Walter Lawrence, C.C.I.E.
- 32 Mr. Warren J. Lynch
- 33 Mrs. L. Meilziner
- 34 Mr. George Meredith, O.M.
- 35 Miss Caroline L. Morgan
- 36 Mrs. B. Morrison-Fuller
- 37 Miss E. Mudocci and Miss B. Edvards
- 38 Mrs. Edward T. Newell
- 39 General Horace Porter
- 40 Mr. and Mrs. Charles S. Peabody
- 41 Mr. Percy Raven



Theodore Spicer-Simson, Esq.,

New York, January 2, 1919.

57 West 57th Street,

New York,

To The American Numismatic Society, Dr.

BROADWAY, BETWEEN 155TH AND 156TH STREETS

DS

Associate Membership Dues for 1919 \$5.00

Received Payment,

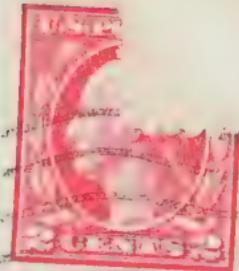
Treasurer.

Membership Medal (Silver, \$8.00; Bronze, \$4.00), may be obtained from the Treasurer.

(See other side)



THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
BROADWAY, AT 156TH ST.
NEW YORK



Theodore Spicer-Simson, Esq.,
57 West 57th Street,
New York.

I am - here
and more

J. STACY HILL,
PRESIDENT.

W. E. HAWK,
MANAGER



Hotel Gibson

CINCINNATI

Jan. 13. 1921.

Dear Sir

Enclosed please find a
Check of five dollars

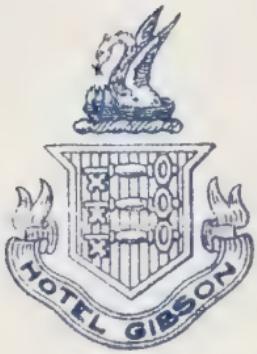
Yours truly
T. Greenhous

Ch for 1921 Associate membership
due. Receipt sent to him
1/20/21 to Raymond M. W.



The American Numismatic
Society

156 West Broadway
New York City
N.Y.



September 24th, 1921.

T. Spicer-Simson, Esq.,
57 West 57th Street,
New York.

Dear Mr. Spicer-Simson:-

We should very much like to have a copy of the medal recently designed by you for the Trubee Davison Aviation prize. Mr. Weil, of the Medallic Art Company, informs me that he will gladly strike a copy for our Society if you will kindly give permission to have this done. If you feel that it is necessary to take this up with those for whom you have designed the medal, will you kindly do so and advise me of their decision. I feel sure we may count upon your good offices.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary.

CABLE ADDRESS "PARK AVENUE"
WU CODE



Park Avenue Hotel

PARK AVENUE
32nd & 33rd STREETS

FIRE PROOF

GEORGE C. BROWN
MANAGING DIRECTOR
MANUEL A. CIZEK JOHN R. MACDONALD
MANAGERS

Jan 1923
New York

Enclosed please find cheque for
my annual dues 1923 & kindly
note my address has been changed
& that all communications should
be sent to me

90th Century Association

7 W. 43rd St

Yours truly,
T. Pierhausen

CABLE ADDRESS "PARK AVENUE"
W.U.CODE



Park Avenue Hotel

PARK AVENUE
32 ND & 33 RD STREETS

FIRE PROOF

GEORGE C. BROWN
MANAGING DIRECTOR
MANUEL A. CIZEK JOHN R. MACDONALD
MANAGERS

Jan 23. 1923
New York

My dear Wood

Sorry I had not got round
to this before but my departure to
the South is imminent & I had
so many things to attend to I slipped
my memory.

Good luck to your good work

Yours cordially,
— Theodore Green Sawyer

Frank
Swanson

January 25th, 1923.

Theodore Spicer-Simson, Esq.,
c/o The Century Association,
7 West 43rd Street,
New York.

Dear Mr. Spicer-Simson:-

On behalf of The American Numismatic Society, I desire to thank you most heartily for your generous contribution toward the cost of the cases we are installing for the display of our collection of war medals and decorations.

Very truly yours,

President.

Coconut Grove

Flea

Dec 7. 1923.

Dear Wood,

Very late I received your or my
to be in New York before the 15th March.
Your kind persistence would have
made me change my mind, but to
arrange anything at this distance
is impossible.

I received a notice saying our works
had been accepted but instead of two
there were 3. The one marked A.N.S. I
do not recognize.

Yours very sincerely,

Theodore G. Greenhous

March 12th, 1923.

Mr. Theodore Spicer-Simson,
Cocoanut Grove,
Florida.

Dear Mr. Spicer-Simson:-

The third medal that puzzles you
is one that the Jury saw here on exhibition,
and said to put in. This is the portrait
of H. Caro-Delvaille. If, however, you do
not want this let me know, and I will take
it out.

Stuff is beginning to arrive, and
the whole terrace is filled with packing
cases containing fountains, equestrian statues,
nymphs, ducks, sea horses, etc.

Very truly yours,

Curator.

CABLE ADDRESS 'PARK AVENUE'
WU CODE

Park Avenue Hotel



PARK AVENUE
32 ND & 33 RD STREETS

FIRE PROOF

GEORGE C. BROWN
MANAGING DIRECTOR
MANUEL A. CIZEK JOHN R. MACDONALD
MANAGERS

New York
Jan 4, 1923.

To the Amer. Numismatic Soc
Broadway
N.Y.

Dear Sirs

I have asked Mr. W. C. Langdon
to be so kind as to lay before you my cast
portrait medallion of S. George F. Hill
which I am offering for sale to the American
Numismatic Society

Mr. Hill sat for this portrait, the only one
existing of him, in 1922 & I am selling
a few replicas at \$50 apiece

The casting was done in Paris, France.
I would have brought it myself but I am
leaving for (yo t. Wyatt.) Coconut Grove FL
tomorrow & only received this copy the day
before yesterday from France.

Believe me
Yours truly

John Spice Sunday

January 9th, 1924

Theodore Spicer-Simson, Esq.
C/o T. Wyatt, Esq.
Coconut Grove, Fla.

Dear Mr. Spicer-Simson:

Your letter and the medal of Dr. George F. Hill have been received. I am very sorry indeed that we are without any funds which we can devote to the purchase of this medal. I am sorry, because I should like to see a better presentation of your work here, but now that Mr. Saltus is dead, we have no one to whom we can appeal for special opportunities such as this.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary

SPS/E

January 22nd, 1926

Theodore Spicer-Simson, Esq.
7 West 43rd Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Spicer-Simson:

The Medallic Art Company has in previous years offered to present to our Museum, specimens of the medals issued during the past year, provided we can secure the consent of the artists who designed them. Among them is one of yours which we should very much like to have - Edward Livingston Trudeau Medal.

You have very generously given us permission for other of your medals, and we trust that may count on your co-operation in making a representative display of what is being done by American sculptors.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary

SPICER-SIMSON
COCONUT GROVE
FLORIDA

Jan 30. 1926

Dear Mr. Noe,

If Dr. Linsley Williams of

The National Tuberculosis Association
will give his permission I shall be
glad to learn that the Amer. Numismati-
cal Society possess the E. L. Trudeau
medal. Dr. Linsley Williams address
is at the Nat. Tuber. Association's office
on 7th Ave. - I have forgotten the no. but you can
find it in the telephone book.
Yours sincerely

Thorold Spicer Simson

N.B.

Feb. 10. 1928.

Dear Mr. Noe,

Sorry you had to write about
my dues but I thought I had paid last
year but could not put my hand on
my cheque book. Enclosed find the
ten dollars. Yours sincerely

Theodore F. in Hansen